

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

UNCLAS STATE 093523

FOR CHARLES A. FAGAN, III

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EGEN:BE

SUBJECT: MATERIAL FOR MR. WILLIAM W. BLUNT, JR. TO

REVIEW PRIOR TO HIS MEETING WITH PAUL ROMUS

1. THIS PARAGRAPH COULD PERHAPS BE INSERTED IN PLACE
OF THE FIRST PARAGRAPH ON PAGE 54 OF ROMUS' DRAFT:

ANOTHER SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTOR TO REGIONAL
POLICY IN THE UNITED STATES IS THE ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT PROGRAM. THIS PROGRAM, WHICH WAS
AUTHORIZED BY THE PUBLIC WORKS AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
ACT OF 1965, IS BASED ON THE ASSUMPTION THAT CERTAIN "ZONES
DE REDEVELOPPEMENT" CANNOT MOUNT EFFECTIVE
ATTACKS ON UNEMPLOYMENT AND LOW INCOME ON THEIR OWN. UNDER
THE DISTRICT APPROACH, COUNTIES JOIN TOGETHER, POOLING
THEIR TALENTS AND RESOURCES IN AN ATTEMPT TO ACHIEVE
COMMON AIMS.

2. THIS PARAGRAPH COULD BE INSERTED WHEREVER ROMUS
FEELS APPROPRIATE IN HIS DISCUSSION OF DISTRICTS:
WHILE THE DISTRICT PROGRAM IS NOT THE MOST SUBSTANTIAL
IN TERMS OF DOLLARS AND MAY NOT PROVIDE A PARTICULARLY USEFUL
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ANALOGY FOR THE EUROPEAN SETTING, IT ILLUSTRATES THE LEVEL

AT WHICH MOST REGIONAL POLICY MAKING OCCURS IN THE U.S.
THE WIDESPREAD SUPPORT FOR THIS PROGRAM ALSO SUGGESTS
GENERAL RECOGNITION THAT THERE IS A NEED FOR POLICY
DEVELOPMENT BEYOND THE COMMUNITY OR COUNTRY LEVEL: THAT SOME
TYPE OF REGIONAL APPROACH IS NECESSARY.

3. AT THE CONCLUSION OF HIS DISCUSSION OF EDA, OR
PERHAPS IN HIS CLOSING REMARKS, ROMUS MIGHT WANT
TO MAKE THIS OBSERVATION:

THE SUBSTANTIAL ROLE OF EDA AND OTHER CATEGORICAL
GRANT PROGRAMS WHOSE FUNDING GOES DIRECTLY TO
INDIVIDUAL COUNTIES OR COMMUNITIES PROVIDES ONE EXPLANATION
FOR THE LIMITED EMPHASIS ON REGIONAL PLANNING AND POLICY
MAKING CHARACTERISTIC OF DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITIES IN THE
UNITED STATES IN THE PAST. THIS EXPLANATION SEEMS PARTICULARLY
MEANINGFUL IN TRYING TO UNDERSTAND THE REASONS FOR THE
LACK OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION AT STATE
OR MULTI-STATE LEVELS, AS THE CATEGORICAL GRANT
PROGRAMS OFFER LITTLE INCENTIVE FOR SUCH EFFORTS.

4. CORRECT TYPO ON PAGE FOUR OF THE DRAFT PREFACE:
COOPERATIVELY INSTEAD OF COOPERATELY.
RUSH

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